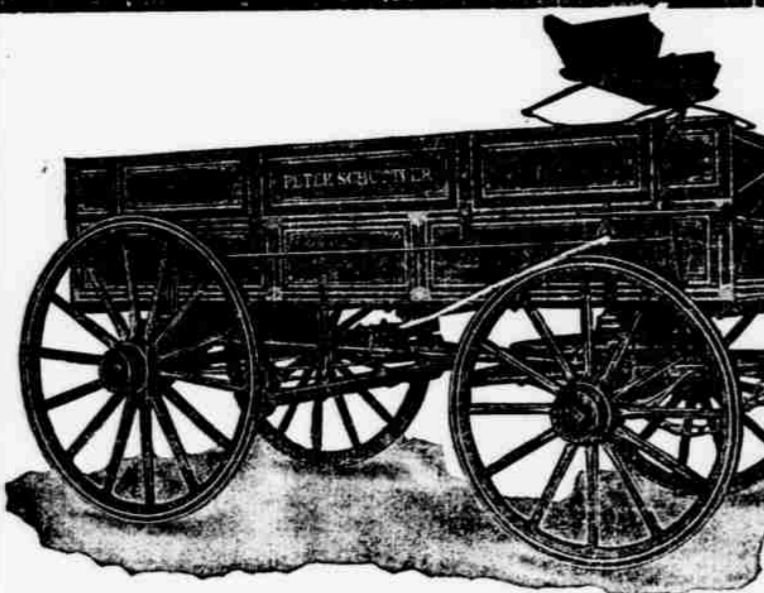


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### THEY ALL WENT BACK ON HIM.

Fisherman's Bitter Complaint Against Alleged Friends.

"I never could and never shall be able to understand the actions of men toward one who has caught a big fish," said the man with the faraway look in his eyes as the subject of fishing was broached. "Last spring I went down to Tampa Beach to fish for tarpon. On the second day out I hooked a monster. That fish weighed over a hundred pounds. While I was playing him over the boat's approach, and he leaped out of water at least ten men got a fair sight of him. All of them called out that he was a prize and encouraged me to hang on. The fish finally snapped the line and got away, to the disappointment of all. When I got back to the hotel I did some talking of course, but to be met with grins and winks on every hand. That roiled me, and I began to call on my witnesses. What do you think was the result?"

We all knew, but no one answered, and after a minute the man continued:

"Only one out of the crowd would back me, and when they came to pin him down he declared that it was a sea bass and weighed as much as five pounds. Why is it, gentlemen—why is human nature built that way? Why can't humanity give a fisherman a fair show?"

But only echo answered. We had been there ourselves.

### ALSO A DISTINGUISHED MAN.

Baseball Spectator Not Behind Players in Distinction.

Baseball is a chronic complaint of Senator Crane. When he was governor of Massachusetts he took his entire staff out for a drive, and surprised them by having the rigs pull up at an open field and announcing there was to be a baseball game. Two nines were chosen and the game began. Pretty soon somebody came along the road.

"What teams are they?" he asked of one of the drivers.

"Why, that man pitching is the governor of Massachusetts," the driver replied. "The one catching is the lieutenant governor. The first baseman is a congressman, the second baseman is the judge advocate general."

"Say," interrupted the passerby, "perhaps you would like to know who I am. I'm Napoleon Bonaparte."

### Widow and Widower.

He was evidently an old bachelor. And she showed sartorial and other signs of being a young widow in "second mourning"—maybe it was third mourning—I'm not sure. They were both frankly hungry; and when they were served, she said, between sips of claret:

"It's funny when a man dies before his wife stress is given to the notice that he 'leaves a widow.' If she goes first, the announcements never say she leaves a widower. Aren't the facts identical?"

And the old bachelor answered: "By no means. A widow is so timid and retiring that it is necessary to publish a notice to the effect that she still hangs out at the same old sign. But a widower doesn't need advertising; he is as frankly a widower as a baby is a baby; and he's like a baby, too—because the first six months he cries, the second six months he 'takes notice,' and he does mighty well if he gets through his second summer!"

### Curious Fishing Methods.

The natives living along the Pan-Lung river have an odd method of fishing. Two dugout boats are used, each about 30 feet long, with two men with long poles, one in the bow, the other at the stern, punting the boat along. They stretch a long rope made of bamboo and plaited grass, about a hundred yards long, and weighted about every ten yards with big stones. This they let down into the water, and the fish are frightened toward the bank. The divers then jump in three at a time, remaining down about 20 seconds. They carry gaffs about 18 inches long, with cords attached. When they strike a fish they let go the gaff and the fish is hauled up into the boat. A big fire is lighted on the river bank for the men to warm themselves.

### Easy.

Mrs. Carrie Nation, arrested in Pittsburg, said that she had been arrested 33 times.

"I try to do good," she told a reporter. "In trying to do good I take life hard. Some folks, most folks, in fact, take it easy—as easy as the new hired girl wanted to take her new place."

"Everything goes by clockwork here," the mistress said to this girl. "By clockwork, mind you. You get up at six, you dine at 12, and you go to bed at ten."

"Well, if that's all," said the girl with a smile, "I think I can manage it."

### Protecting the Miners.

The American miner has been the object at one time and another of considerable sentimental sympathy, to which he has probably paid very little attention. The establishment of a government experiment station for the study of mine explosives is a much more practical kind of interest. It is to be hoped that the European example will be followed to the full extent of prohibiting the use of explosives that are proved unnecessarily dangerous and strictly limiting the amount of any explosive that can be used under given conditions.—Boston Transcript.

## Farmers, Listen!

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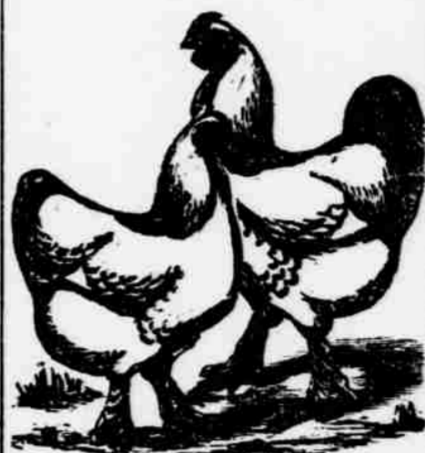
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### PERIOD OF REST PROCLAIMED.

Absence of Light Regulates the Hours of Slumber.

If it were always daytime, we should never sleep. So says a scientist, according to Answers. There is no particular reason why we, or any other animals, should rest, on an average, eight or nine hours a day.

The period of rest has been determined by the fact that eight hours is the average time when there is a lack of sufficient light to enable us to move about in comfort.

This most fundamental distinction between night and day is wholly relative to the sense of sight. It only affects those types of life which have developed eyes.

Plants, being dependent for their growth upon the action of rays of sunlight which fall upon their leaves, have a wide distinction between day and night functions.

They eat and digest in the light, and grow during the hours of darkness.

The lowest forms of animal life—the sightless denizens of ocean depths—do not rest at regular intervals. They prowl around incessantly, seeking prey by the sense of touch alone. When they rest, it is at irregular periods. In other words, they have no distinct periodicity of their own.

But as soon as eyes are developed, and in proportion to this development, animals begin to divide their time into two main portions—a waking and a sleeping time. While there is light they perform all motive functions. When darkness comes they retire to nest or lair to rest.

### ARE MASTERS OF EVASIVENESS.

Bedouin's Answer Typical of the People of the East.

In the far east, when men converse together, an evasion is equal to an answer. Riding down to Egypt over the old caravan route from Jerusalem to Cairo, Norman Duncan and a party pitched their tents outside a Bedouin village and by so doing offended against the laws of hospitality which the people so religiously maintain. Mr. Duncan, writing in Harper's Magazine, says that he was obliged to turn aside their reproaches—and avoid the abominable quarters which were still being offered. Turning to his guide, he said: "The man must be diverted. Ask him if the world is round or flat." The reply was a pure philosopher's jewel of the east. "If the world is flat," came the response, after heavy pondering, "I am content; if it is round, it is by God's wisdom." And the men softly applauded, in their pleasure forgetting their injury, forgetting everything except the joyous native craft of words.

### The Inquisitive Man.

Wet paint as a test of human curiosity has a rival in the chewing gum slot. The apparatus at the One Hundred and Tenth street subway station was out of order the other morning. The first person to discover the fact was a small boy with a yearning for gum. He confidently dropped a penny in the slot, but the toothsome wafer held coyly back. Repeated thumpings and shakings failed to induce it to appear, and the boy, looking disconsolate, was finally persuaded by his mother to go downtown without it. A dozen or more persons had witnessed his futile attempt to coax out a piece of gum, but they were in no wise deterred from following his example. Evidently each thought his predecessor had not manipulated the machine properly, and that he could do better, for before the next express train came along five men who apparently had never known what chewing gum tasted like had sacrificed pennies on the altar of their curiosity.—New York Times.

### An Ancient "Twopenny Tube."

A great tunnel which has lately been found at Gezer, in the land of the Philistines, in Palestine, was described at the annual meeting of the Palestine Exploration Fund. Prof. Macalister, whose son has been making the excavations, said that the tunnel, which was made about 2000 B. C., is as high as the "Twopenny Tube" and half as wide. It descends by 80 steps, the lowest of which is 130 feet below ground. In it is a well. The tunnel is the greatest engineering work that has been found in Palestine, and has astonished every one who has seen it.—St. James' Gazette.

### On Midsummer Eve.

In European countries, midsummer eve, June 23, is celebrated, and the blazing fires from the hilltops are supposed to typify rejoicing at the good luck of the past year, and the burned-out fagots are kept to ward off evil for the coming year. The maiden gathers mistletoe with her left hand, and with it assures for herself her heart's desire, but in this country the culmination of the season is not considered worth a thought.

### Two of a Kind.

"Yes," said Maj. Bragg, "I've been in many engagements in my time, but I never lost my head!"

"How odd!" exclaimed the summer girl. "Now, I've been in many engagements, too, and never lost my heart!"

### Justice.

The American embezzler arrested in Honduras was arranging terms of escape.

"You're a robber," he exclaimed to the native official. "Why, I might about as well go home and hire a lawyer."